

For the Christian Messenger.

**Acadia College.**

I would inform the friends and contributors to Acadia College that a quarter's salary is now due the Professors, and I can but partially meet the amount for want of funds; there are many parties to whom I have written, who promised remittances at the end of the year, I would respectfully ask those to send me the same with as little delay as possible. Some will remember, no doubt, that their notes are due 1st Jan'y. and will need no further reminding of the fact. We need both *principal and interest*. Where the sum is small, and it be not convenient to enclose it by mail, it can be paid to any local Agent or to any of the Baptist Ministers in the vicinity, who will no doubt receive and forward it. When sent by mail, the party remitting can put any odd sum in postage stamps, and may deduct enough from the amount due to put a stamp on the letter. The mail is usually the safest and most direct mode of transmitting funds. Many friends have been in the habit of making donations annually to the College; we would invite a continuance of this good practice, and will be happy to receive and acknowledge any sums so sent. Rev. A. D. Thompson will be here in a few days to resume his Agency, with the particular aim of increasing the Endowment. It is hoped that the New Year will open upon his mission auspiciously. Two things must be kept steadily in view by the friends of the College. One is to pay in early the outstanding pledges—be they notes or subscriptions. The other is, to aid in every possible way in increasing the Endowment Fund. Upon these two depend the safety and progress of this highly necessary institution.

J. W. BARSS, Treasurer.

Wolfville, 30th Dec., 1861.

**Christian Messenger.**

HALIFAX, JANUARY 1, 1862.

\* SUBSCRIBERS who are in arrears, but are uncertain as to the amount of their indebtedness, and have no other opportunity of sending to our office, will greatly oblige by forwarding to us any convenient sum by letter, through the post office. We shall be happy, in acknowledging the receipt of the same, to inform them to what date the sum sent will pay.

**New Year's Day.**

"A HAPPY NEW YEAR" to you, respected Reader! We mean by this no mere empty compliment, but desire that you may have in possession, now, and through 1862, all the elements of earthly happiness and prosperity.—Piles of gold are insufficient, to purchase the solid realities of true blessedness, or we might wish you to possess untold wealth. A sufficiency of the bounties of Providence to supply our necessities, and health to enjoy them, are far more desirable than such a profusion as might increase our anxieties, and become an encumbrance so as to prevent our seeking the true riches. A happy year however supposes a sufficiency of all earthly good, with freedom from sorrow and distress. These blessings gentle reader, we desire that you may possess, and with them a consciousness of the favor of the Most High, which is better even than life. Though you may meet with disappointments in temporal matters, yet these even may contribute to heighten your estimate of the joys which are permanent. We would commend to you the durable riches and righteousness provided for all believers in the Lord Jesus, and which never fail in making their possessors happy.

The last moment of 1861 has departed into the great gulf of a past eternity, and we are this day launching our bark on the shores of the vast future, uncertain what may arise as we proceed. It would be idle to speculate on the probabilities of the year. Each period of human life is fraught with its own load of weighty responsibilities, and each individual may say 'None of us liveth to himself.' We have to share the common lot, and should be ready to contribute our quota towards the general good.

"Well begun is half finished."

is a proverb well suited to this day. Although good resolutions are said to pave the way to the pit of destruction, yet that is the case only when they become nothing but good intentions. Well-laid plans are necessary to the accomplishment of beneficial results. Whilst then we accept and reciprocate the common salutation of the season, let us seek to lay a foundation for realizing the good wishes. The formation of habits is a result of the principles we hold, as certainly as the golden harvest arises from the sowing of seed. 'Whatever a man soweth that shall he also reap.'

No more favorable time exists for looking over the past and preparing for the future, than the close of one year and the beginning of another. Whilst, therefore, we are wishing for our friends many happy returns of this season, let us consider that in doing so we bind ourselves to such a course of conduct as shall be calculated to bring about that end. With this understanding, friends, we wish you one and all, *A happy new year.*

Come, let us anew our journey pursue,  
Roll round with the year,  
And never stand still, till the Master appear,

Oh that such in the day of his coming may say,  
I have fought my way through,  
I have finished the work Thou didst give me to do,

Oh that each from his Lord may receive the glad word  
'Well and faithfully done,  
Enter into my joy and sit down on my throne.'

**The Late Prince Consort.**

In our last we gave the despatch announcing the death of Prince Albert, and referred to the gloom such an event must naturally cast over the Royal Family, and especially over Her Majesty Queen Victoria.—We had no time or space then to refer to the departed one, and the position he has held in the esteem of our whole Empire. His amiable qualities had secured for him a place in the hearts of the people, which few so situated would have occupied. The knowledge of his estimable qualities will increase the concern of the people for the Royal Family.—Although they are in so exalted a position, and are surrounded by an atmosphere so different from that of other families, yet the relations existing between the head and the branches, are no less important in respect to the moral training of the younger members;—the youngest of whom is not 5 years of age. The example set by Prince Albert cannot fail to exercise a beneficial influence on the minds of his children, even now after he is removed from their midst.

A brief notice of the life of Prince Albert, will not be out of place here.

Albert Francis Augustus Charles Emmanuel, Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, was born in 1819, on the 26th day of August, at the castle of Rosenau or Rosenheim in Bavaria, a few miles from the city of Munich, in Germany, he was consequently but forty-two years of age at his death. His family had been long celebrated in the history of Germany. At the time of the Reformation they espoused the Protestant cause and afforded shelter in Coburg Castle to its great champion—Luther.

At the age of eighteen Prince Albert entered the University of Bonn as a student of jurisprudence. Here, on the banks of the Rhine, he remained three years and attained great proficiency in the branches to which he devoted his attention. In company with his father and brother he visited England at the coronation of our then youthful sovereign Queen Victoria.

In 1839 he again visited Britain and became a guest of the Queen. Shortly after his departure Her Majesty informed the Privy Council of her intention to form an alliance with Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and on the 10th of February 1840 the marriage took place and the Prince became a naturalized subject of Great Britain. Parliament voted him a yearly allowance of £30,000, the title of Royal Highness, and the right of precedence next to the Queen. In June 1857 the title of Prince Consort was conferred upon him with other distinctions suitable to the husband of the Sovereign. A slight rumour was started, during the Crimean war, of Prince Albert tampering with the foreign correspondence, but it was soon discovered to be but the breath of scandal, and his reputation was not allowed to suffer. Prince Albert's talents and learning entitled him to an exalted station among literary men, and, whenever the opportunity was afforded for him to address those occupying high positions in literature and art, he did honor to himself and the institutions of which he became the liberal patron. This was signally the case in the occasion of his delivering the inaugural address as President of the British Association for the encouragement of Science and the Arts. In his efforts to promote the Great Exhibition of the Industry of all nations in 1851, Prince Albert manifested great activity and earnestness. The idea of giving the exhibition a world wide character is said to be due to him. Agriculture received great benefits by the attention he paid to its improvement. Perhaps there can scarcely be found, in the history of Britain, an instance where an individual has been called from a foreign court to so inti-

mate a connection with the sovereign, who was so successful in overcoming the prejudices of the English people and being received into such general favor by all classes of the community. It is well known that some alliances of England's sovereigns have been the source of her greatest troubles and most destructive wars. The Prince's death seems to have been quite sudden and unexpected, having been confined to his bed but a few days, and an official bulletin issued by his medical attendants but the day before. As the steamer sailed the same day, as that on which Prince Albert died, we have no further details concerning his death, or the effects of the sad calamity on the Royal Family and the nation.

**The week of Prayer.**

The Committee of the Union Prayer Meeting in Halifax have made arrangements for Special Prayer Meetings to be held in the Argyle Street Chapel as follows:—Lord's-day morning, Jan. 5, at ½ past 9, a. m.; on Monday at 11, a. m., and on each of the other days of the week at 9 o'clock, a. m.

On Monday evening at Temperance Hall, at ½ past 7, and on each of the following evenings, except Saturday, at the Argyle Street Chapel at the same hour.

On Saturday a meeting to be held at 12 o'clock, noon, instead of in the evening.

It is to be regretted that the Committee did not send copies of the Circular concerning these services, to the country ministers, at an earlier date. We fear that they would scarcely reach many of them in time to make arrangements for them. With the notices which we and our contemporaries have given, however, we doubt not they will do what circumstances will prompt in assembling together for prayer some parts of the week.

LECTURE.—Professor DeMill delivered a lecture on Monday evening last, before the Young Men's Christian Association at Temperance Hall, which was filled by a numerous and attentive audience, on "The Catacombs of Rome." This subject must always be an interesting one to every christian heart, but in this instance, the graphic descriptions given by the talented lecturer were so striking, that we could easily follow him in imagination, through the gloomy passages and the sequestered chapels of this dreary city of refuge. The historical allusions of the lecturer to Rome, as the great source of law to the civilized world, shewed him to be no mere reader on the subject, but a deep and original thinker on the things and philosophy of history. Perhaps one of the most pleasing features in the lecture, was, that of its being entirely extempore, this added an additional charm to the chaste and eloquent language by which the Professor so happily drew the picture of the past, as regards the dwellers in these dismal recesses, as well as of the appearance the Catacombs now present to the traveller who is so favored as to be able to pay them a visit. His discussion of the Roman-Catholic claims respecting some of their observances, in connection with the relics in these dark caverns, was highly satisfactory.

**One of our Subscribers writes:—**

"I hope you will enter on your new volume with an increase of new subscribers. If our pastors were fully alive to the importance of the matter they would not rest till each family in their charge took a copy. We have about ten thousand Baptist families, and each ought to take a copy of the Messenger."

**Another says:—**

"I shall be glad to see a large increase in the circulation of our paper, for what I regard the best paper in Nova Scotia,—the Christian Messenger."

We thank these brethren for their kind expressions.

ERRATUM.—We discovered in our last week's issue, when too late to alter, that one of our compositors had damaged two articles on our second page, by accidentally transferring one line from the bottom to the top of the fourth column. Will our readers oblige us by looking over those two articles again reading the first line of the fourth column after the last line.

**News Summary.****MASON AND SLIDELL TO BE GIVEN UP!**

THE past week has been one of strong and continued excitement on account of the consequences which appeared almost inevitable, of an immediate rupture between England and the Northern States. The gross and illegal outrage committed by Capt. Wilkes on the British flag, as we had no doubt it would, aroused a feeling of universal indignation throughout the Empire, and the insane and reckless exultation with which the news of such an insult on a friendly power had been hailed, of course added poignancy to the just sense of the wrong received. So prompt has

been the action of England in vindicating the honour of her flag, that already between two and three thousand picked troops have arrived at this port, and at the mouth of the St. Lawrence, and before some of our readers will have received our present number, in all probability as many more will have reached us.

We most heartily rejoice, however, to be able to state, that by a telegram received late on Saturday evening by the Lieutenant Governor, we have the welcome news that President Lincoln has deemed it most prudent to comply with the terms demanded by the British Government, that the act of Capt. Wilkes, in forcibly seizing the Southern Delegates, should be disavowed by the American Executive, a satisfactory acknowledgement of the wrong be made, and the Delegates delivered up to the British authorities. We trust that a mature consideration of the act itself, has been a main ingredient in producing the result. The decided attitude taken by England, and the universal reprobation by the Great Powers of Europe, of the seizure of the Delegates, may not have been without their influence.

We sincerely hope that no further cause may spring up to create new difficulties, but after the causeless and unprovoked enmity evinced by Mr. Seward towards England, and the hostile and menacing demonstrations he has made on the Canadian borders, we fear little confidence can be put in the long continuance of friendly relations between the countries while he rules Mr. Lincoln's Councils. In the meantime England, while maintaining a strict and honourable neutrality, as she has hitherto done, will take the most prompt and effectual measures to meet any future aggression.

The following steamships arrived yesterday morning: the *Asia* with dates from Queens-town to the 22nd ult., on her way to New York. She brought besides freight and mails, 44 military officers, 427 men and 29 artisans. The *Persia* from Bisc, where she had been with troops. The *Adriatic*, 10 days from Southampton with troops.

The *Melbourne* had arrived at Sydney C. B. Another Steamer was signalled off the harbor, yesterday a'te no n.

Six of the New York Banks had refused to suspend specie payments yesterday.

**General Intelligence.****DOMESTIC.**

It was announced in the *Gazette* of Wednesday last, that a Levee would be held at Government-house on New Year's Day.

On Friday Evening a *Gazette Extraordinary* was issued announcing that in consequence of the death of the Prince Consort, the Lieutenant Governor will not hold a Levee at Government House this day, Wednesday.

FIRE.—Mr. Thomas Elliott's steam saw mill, at Bedford, was totally destroyed by fire on Thursday morning last. The total loss is estimated at £750. The mill was insured for £500.

THE WEATHER.—Winter has come in earnest. On Saturday last we were visited by a violent storm from the North. Some of the shipping in the harbor suffered considerably.—Two schooners broke adrift, one washed up on George's Island.

At a meeting of the Board of Firewards, recently elected by the City Council, held on Monday 23rd, William Arkhurst Esq., was unanimously chosen Chairman, and Messrs. Lang, Coleman, E. Longard, and James Reeves, a Committee of Management at fires.

LUNENBURG.—A correspondent of the *Church Record*, writing from this place, under date Dec. 20th, says: "No less than fifteen houses have gone up since the beginning of November, some of them of large dimensions. Companies of men were at work with the shovel, though it was mid December, and I could not perceive that the population had much diminished since my last visit." One thousand claims 30 feet by 32 have been taken up.

THE CITY PRISON.—The inmates of this institution to the number of about 60, two third of whom were males, were supplied with an excellent Christmas dinner on Wednesday last.—The building was decorated with evergreens.—On the previous evening about 16, whose term of incarceration had nearly expired were liberated. After the dinner on Christmas Day, three prisoners made their escape, but were captured a few hours after.

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.—We learn from a private letter received by the *Niagara* from England, that the Directors of the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Land Company, in London, had issued invitations for a dinner at the "Albion" on Friday, Dec. 20, to a party of gentlemen interested in British North America, for the purpose of meeting the Hon. Mr. Howe, of this Province, the Hon. Mr. Tilley, of New Brunswick, and the Hon. Mr. Vankoughnet, of Canada, the Commissioners appointed to negotiate with the British Government on the subject of the Intercolonial Railway.—Recorder.